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Subject: Article in Beverly Press re/ rise in homelessness
Date: 23-Jul-2015 09:02
Attachments: TEXT.htm [Save] [Open]
 Mime.822 (excluded from export)
Creation Date: 23-Jul-2015 09:02
Store Date: 29-Oct-2015 17:18
Status: forwarded,opened,read
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Greetings HPOA board,

Wanted to bring to your attention an article in today's Beverly Press, in which the data we have been collecting for the last two years is shared.

<http://beverlypress.com/2015/07/encampments-spring-up-as-homelessness-rises/>

This is a growing concern city-wide, as we discussed at last week's board meeting. With appreciation to the BID Patrol, our team goes out on the last day of the month at 4 a.m. and counts every person they see sleeping in the two BIDs and notes the specific location. So we have very good data now for two years, which documents this increase. Here is a snapshot of the overall data set for just June 30 over the past two years.

2013

2014

2015

male

female

total

Male

Female

Total

Male

Female

total

Sunset

42

11

53

101

17

118

147

24

171

Hollywood

64

4

68

89

9

98

110

14

124

total

106

15

121

190

26

216

257

38

295

Compared to June 2013, there are 174 more homeless people sleeping in the two BIDs, an increase of 144%.

We continue to gather data (esp. re/ recent arrivals to Hollywood) and are gathering photos and video footage.

I was involved in two meetings re/ this topic yesterday; one at the Central City Association, and the second at Home for Good. The idea surfaced at Home for Good of asking the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to declare a state of emergency to introduce extraordinary measures to build permanent housing for the chronically homeless. Bold idea, but under the circumstances, not a bad idea.

So, the conversations continue, and that is helpful in the public arena. And we are included.

Kerry

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